

FGD guide – Pockets of Hope

Date of FGD	
Length of FGD	
Location of FGD	
Interviewer name	
Language in which FGD was conducted	
FGD with which group (returnees, refugees, IDPs, hosts)	
Type of FGD (women, men, youth, elderly etc)	
Number of FGD participants	

Introduction and explanation of the research/research ethics:

We are part of a team of researchers who are conducting a community-based assessment of this area. The assessment aims to comprehensively map services provided as well as gaps considering both local and displaced populations (returnees, IDPs, refugees), allowing for coordinated and inclusive development approaches by all stakeholders, including national and local Governments, international development actors and humanitarian.

The information collected during our FGD discussion today will be anonymous and treated as confidential – we will not share your name or personal contact information with anyone else outside the research team. Your name will also not appear on any published document.

Your participation in the research is completely voluntary - it is your choice whether you participate or not. If you do not want to take part in the research, there are no negative consequences and this will not affect your ability to access any assistance or services. The discussion will take around 60-90 minutes. You do not need to answer every question that we ask if you are not comfortable and you are free to stop the conversation at any time, just let me know. If you have any questions, you can ask me at any time before, during, and after the FGD.

Based on the information that you have just heard – are you happy to proceed?

Respondent has agreed to participate in the FGD: yes no

Do you have any questions for us?

NB: We will aim to do FGDs with different groups (separately for men and women, and also hosts and returnees/other displaced persons). We will also aim to include a diversity of people (people with disabilities, people from minorities, old and young, as well as returnees that came a longer time ago vs those who have only recently arrived).

FGD Discussion guidance/questions

1. Background /returns and integration / migration journey

1.1. Discussion around history of movement and return of the participants: introduce the discussion around the following questions: *Where did you come from? How long did you stay in your host country/host area? How did you return to this area? Did you come directly here or were you settled somewhere along the way? Was this your first displacement elsewhere or have you returned several times already?*

1.2. Reasons for return: probe for: *What were the main reasons for your decision for return? Is this your original home area or area of choice? If so, why did you choose to return to here*

1.3. Discussion around challenges faced in return and integration and possible solutions: *Did you face any protection concerns during your travel here / en route to this area? What are some of the key challenges that you are facing upon your return here? probe for services, land issues, communal conflicts/security, climate issues etc. What are some of the possible solutions to these challenges?*

2. Social Cohesion

Discussion around communal relations – relations between hosts/IDPs/returnees/refugees: *How are returnees/other displaced people being received in the area? Are there tensions between hosts and returnees/other displaced people? Or different displaced/returnee groups? If, so around what issues do tensions revolve? Are there opportunities for positive interactions? Probe for examples around work, faith, social, etc.*

3. Security and Protection

3.1. Discussion around security and protection concerns in the area: How is the security in the area? What are key security and protection concerns in the area? *Probe for communal violence and tensions, land issues, army fighting, cattle raiding, kidnappings, other issues of concern.*

3.2. Are there concerns/risks that affect different groups differently – e.g. returnees, refugees, hosts, IDPs, women and girls, youth, minorities, people with disabilities? *Please explain (probe for discrimination, violence, forced recruitment, kidnapping, etc.*

3.3. How are some of these issues being addressed, if at all? Are there referral pathways for support, e.g. for SGBV, mental health etc.? Who do people feel most comfortable going to for help, and for what issue? *Probe for who people go to to solve these issues, e.g. the army, police, courts, elders, community police, NGOs, government or community institutions, churches etc.*

4. Livelihoods

4.1. Discussion around livelihood opportunities in the area: what are the main activities and opportunities for livelihoods that people are engaged in? Are there differences between returnees/displaced people and hosts in terms of activities that people are engaged in? *probe for farming and access to land, livestock, grazing land, tools, etc.* Are returnees and hosts engaged in common livelihoods activities / exchange of skills? Are returnees bringing new skills or vice versa learning new skills from others?

4.2. What are key barriers around livelihoods and opportunities for self-reliance. Are barriers different for returnees/refugees/IDPs and hosts? *Probe for differences between groups, and also for security issues, land constraints, lack of inputs or finance, discrimination, climate related issues etc.*

5. Services and impact of returnees.

5.1. What kind of services can people (displaced and hosts) access in the area? Probe for schooling, healthcare/mental health support, water, sanitation/latrines etc.

5.2. How do you see the quality of these services? Discuss each in turn and what the key issues are with quality – e.g. lack of staff, lack of medicines or good facilities, lack of boreholes, distance to facilities, etc etc.

5.3. What are the main barriers for access to these services? Are barriers different for different groups e.g. returnees/hosts/IDPs/ hosts, women, disabled people, youth ? Discuss and probe for differences/discrimination/barriers in access for different groups and the reasons why.

5.4. Discussion on impact of returnees on the area in terms of services, livelihoods and food security. What has been the impact of returnees on the area? Is the impact positive or negative? Is it felt more in one area (e.g. food, services, social cohesion etc.) than in another? Please discuss.

6. Durable Solutions

Discussion around durable solutions and issues related to land and conflict, documentation: What would it take for people to settle here permanently? What are key barriers for people to settle here? Are people able to reclaim old land/acquire new land/solve land disputes? What about issues of documentation? Are people able to access documents they need (e.g. personal IDs, land titles, other documents) Other key issues. *Probe for any ongoing community conflicts, insecurity, basic services availability, climate related issues such as flooding, land etc*

7. Future Outlook

How do you see the future of this area? What do you see as key priority areas that need to be addressed for returnees/refugees/IDPs and hosts to be able to live together peacefully and in the longer term? *Please rank key priorities in order of importance.*